

AUSTRALIAN SOCCER

WEEKLY

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OLYMPIC WIN CUP

BY CON NIKOLOPOULOS

SYDNEY OLYMPIC, the club which has promised so much, but provided so little in terms of trophies, finally gave their long suffering supporters something to cheer about when they won the National League Cup last Sunday.

Olympians achieved a carbon 1-0 win over arch-rivals Heidelberg United at Melbourne's Olympic Park to grab their first major title in the National League.

Sunday's victory followed on their 1-0 win in Sydney last week and gave them an 2-0 aggregate

gate over the two leg series.

Unfortunately, as a spectacle, the second leg of the National League Cup ranged between average and low.

Both teams failed to reach good standards and disappointed the crowd of 6,000.

Sydney Olympic were the better side and worked hard for the Cup. They fought for the ball throughout and defended solidly giving Heidelberg no space to develop their attacks.

In fact, Sydney Olympic burst into attack right from the outset and kept the opposition under pressure, forcing their rivals into a number of errors.

And, Olympic would have scored early in the piece from one of those errors had Marshall Soper concentrated more on his game rather than retaliating against Heidelberg's Don MacLeod.

Soper and MacLeod were involved in a number of spiteful incidents. They continually clashed on and off the ball and forced referee Chris

Bambridge to show them the yellow card.

Actually, it was Soper who got the worse of the rough house tactics. Seven

ponents, who on occasions reacted spasmodically with breakaways through Gary Cole and Derek Lea.

Cole and Lea were given no opportunity by Olympic's solid defence, who applied effectively the offside trap — obviously aware of the tremendous acceleration of the two Heidelberg target men.

So, the first half ended with a 0-0 score, which worked in favour of Sydney Olympic, who enjoyed the advantage of their 1-0 win in the first leg in Sydney.

Olympic coach Manfred Schaefer applied the same tactics in the opening half as those he used in Sydney. He instructed his players to attack from the first kick of the ball and managed to keep Heidelberg under seige for 45 minutes.

Schaefer admitted after the game that he took a punt.

But, he said: "Attack-

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Schaefer: elated

eral times he was left on the ground writhing in agony.

In spite of their dominance in the opening half Olympic did not create many scoring opportunities thus lessening the pressure on their op-



WATSON IS THE BEST PLAYER

BY DAVID JACK

JOE WATSON, of Sydney City Slickers, is the NSL, "Player of the year", on the votes of the Australian Soccer Press Association (ASPA).

Watson, who writes a weekly column for Australian Soccer Weekly, won the Wedgwood Bowl

in a close finish with Phil O'Connor (Wollongong), who a few weeks ago won the radio Rentals

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ASW TROPHY TO SAINTS' FRANK AROK

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

FOR the second consecutive year, St George manager coach, Frank Arok, was chosen by the Australian Soccer Press Association, as "Coach of The Year."

Arok received his magnificent trophy, sponsored by AUSTRALIAN SOCCER WEEKLY last night (Monday), at an elaborate function at Melbourne's Southern Cross Hotel.

I approached the St George maestro at the dinner for his feelings on winning the prestigious award, twice running.

Clamly, and appearing unemotional, Arok said: "For me, my St George playing staff, directors and members, and supporters, it is a great honour.

"It adds so much to the great year the Saints have had.

"We were Ampol Cup finalists, we won the NSL Championship and now I am presented with this lovely trophy to cap it all," Arok added.

In winning the award, Arok had to stave off great challenges from Sydney City's Eddie Thomson, Newcastle's Kenny Kaiser, and the Melbourne double of Peter Ollerton and Len McKendry.

ASW annually sponsors the "Coach of The Year," possibly the hardest award in Australian Soccer to win.

The members of ASPA unanimously agreed that Frank Arok, after suffering so many mental torments, strain, blood, sweat and tears during the season, was a most worthy winner.



Frank Arok, ASPA's coach of the year, for the second year running, receives the AUSTRALIAN SOCCER WEEKLY trophy from ASW's publisher Theo Skalkos.

THAT'S IT FOR 1983

This issue of AUSTRALIAN SOCCER WEEKLY is the last one for the year. We hope you like it.

It has been a pleasure for ASW to provide Australian Soccer followers with a weekly newspaper which, according to some flattering comments, "bears comparison with any similar publication in the world."

ASW will now take a summer rest. We'll be back to tackle the new season early in 1984.

In signing off, we must thank the many loyal readers who have supported this newspaper through the year. Without your help, we could not survive.

ASW is also indebted to its advertisers.

Whether the advertisements were full page or half page or just a few single column centimetres, all helped us produce the biggest and best Soccer publication in Australia.

SEE YOU ALL NEXT YEAR.

EDITORIAL

BELIEVE it or not, the 1983 Soccer season has ended. It took a long time, but Sunday's second leg of the National Cup Final did, in fact, wrap things up.

Now the coaches and players can start preparing for the new season with some mid-summer training sessions — just in case they have a little spare time on their hands!

Seriously, though, this is a good time to look back on a memorable year in Australian Soccer history.

Undoubtedly the most important event was the restructuring of the National League.

It had to happen. The national competition, in the format it has followed since its inception in 1977, could not continue.

The dual evils of increasing air fares and decreasing match attendances were taking the NSL to the brink of bankruptcy.

Hardly a club in the competition was free of debt: some of those debts were enormous.

Wisdom prevailed and in 1984 there should be many more local derby games. These will surely increase attendances and, at the same time, reduce the air fares slug.

While much of the work in Soccer this year has been at administrative level, some progress has been made on the playing field.

In Mexico at the World Youth Championship, Australia fielded a squad which any country in the world would be happy to own. The surprise win over Europe's champions, Scotland, was one of the most important results for many a year.

At senior level, the Socceroos started with dreadful results against the old enemy, New Zealand, but, in mid-season, the national team, expertly handled by Frank Arok, came good against England.

Arok's success as caretaker-coach presented national coach Les Scheinflug with a perfect incentive to do even better. Be sure Scheinflug will strive to the limit to bring back good results from Australia's Singapore venture in the Merlion Cup.

On the club front, the standard of Soccer was reasonable, showing little improvement or deterioration, from past years.

There were a few dull matches and a few which reached European heights. We cannot complain.

Newcastle's brave challenge for honours and the surprise emergence of Preston were highlights of the season. Those two clubs emphasised that Sydney is not the be-all-and-end-all of Australian Soccer.

Looking to the future, two matters of great importance must claim major attention.

First, the clubs in the National League and, indeed, those in the State Leagues will have to start balancing their books better. Gross over-spending by ambitious people eager to see their teams on top must be discouraged. If it is not, the benefits to be gained from the new NSL set-up will be quickly squandered.

Secondly, Australia must build a national squad powerful and talented enough to win for this country a place in the 1986 World Cup finals.

It will not be easy. Asia's reluctance to allow Australia or New Zealand to intrude into its territory for World Cup eliminations presents the Oceania nations with new challenges.

At this stage, nobody can even guess what hurdles face the Socceroos on the long road to Mexico.

But if Scheinflug's men do not tackle the Asians like Korea, China, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia in the eliminations, it is possible the journey to the finals could be less exacting than in the past.

In other words, if the winners of the Oceania group are kept away from the Asians, FIFA might be doing the Socceroos a big favour.

From Page 1

OLYMPIC'S VICTORY

ing all the time was the most effective weapon available to me against an opposition that relies on breakaways with two of Australia's fastest forwards, Gary Cole and Derek Lea."

Heidelberg tried to reverse the tide in the sec-

From Page 1

award as NSW "Players of the Year".

When all of the voting was revealed in the presence of Prime Minister Bob Hawke at the Southern Cross Hotel in Melbourne last night, Watson held a two points advantage over O'Connor.

Watson (29 pts), O'Connor (27) and Charlie Yankos of Heidelberg (25) were the top three in the voting.

Surprisingly, David Ratcliffe, tipped to give the contest a shake, did not figure in the top 12 — a disappointment for the St George centre half, who was runner up in this year's NSW Award.

There were 181 players who received votes, averaging more than 11 names from each club.

After Watson, O'Connor and Yankos, the leaders were:

Alan Davidson (23 pts), Oscar Crino and Zarko Odzakov (21), Neil Banfield and Peter Tredinnick (20), Robert Dunn, David Lowe and Gary Watson, all with 19 points.

Watson, who was State "Player of the Year" in 1982 said he was thrilled to follow that up with an even bigger prize of top National Player this time.

The little Scottish winger is now firmly established as one of the great players in the history of the National League and looks an automatic selection for the Australian team to play in Merlion Cup in Singapore.

Various other awards were presented at last night's function organised by ASPA in conjunction with the NSL.

Melbourne's Stewart Mellings was voted "Referee of the Year" with a remarkably high average of 8.29 pts per match.

Referees are rated every week during the season on the scale of five to 10 pts each game.

Tony Boskovic, last year's winner, was next with 8.1 and Donald Campbell third on 8pts.

Then followed Chris Bambridge (7.90), Doug Rennie (7.50), and Tim Davies on 7.46 pts.

The Under 21 "Player of the Year" is South Melbourne's Oscar Crino, who pipped Neil Banfield of Adelaide City by just one point for the Soccer Action trophy.

Crino (21 pts) was followed in by Banfield (20), David Lowe (19), David Skeen and Danny Wright (17) and Tom McCulloch, captain of the Youth Socceroos with 16 points.

Coach of the Year and winner of our ASW trophy (see separate story) was Frank Arok with 94 votes, giving him a clear break on other leading coaches Peter Olerton (69), Ken Kaiser (42) and Eddie Thomson (28).

and half with an all-out offensive. The space available to them, however, was limited by Olympic's defence and they found it extremely difficult to maintain the pressure on the opposition.

The first scoring chance of the game was created by Sydney Olympic through Mark Koussas.

Koussas evaded a number of tackles from the left and stepped into Olver's area. A last-ditch effort by Heidelberg player-coach Jim Tansey, however, prevented him from firing at the target.

Heidelberg captain Gary Cole produced the best thrill of the game, in so far as his team was concerned, in the 57th minute. Cole chested down a pass from Scott Patterson and launched a rocket from close range. Steady Gary Meier, however, blocked the shot safely.

That was Heidelberg's only attempt at goal, apart from a back kick by Lea that went flying over the crossbar.

Young Terry Petalis

scored the winning goal nine minutes before full-time, causing an outburst of enthusiasm from the few, but extremely vocal Sydney Olympic supporters, who had followed their team to Melbourne.

Petalis broke clear of the defence outside the box and beat Olver with an angular shot that gave Olympic the National League Cup.

Tansey admitted after the game: "Sydney Olympic were the better team over the two finals and deserved the Cup. I am disappointed with the result but I am pleased with the effort of my players."

Tansey revealed to me in an after-match interview that he is planning to sever his long-standing relationship with Heidelberg United.

"I have been at Heidelberg for seven years now," he said, "And I feel the time has come for me to look for a new career.

"I have not received any offers as yet, nor I have I made any approaches, but I will be doing that as soon as I get over our Cup ordeal.

"I wish to thank my players for giving me



Terry Petalis scored the two goals that set up Olympic's victory.

their support over the last 10 weeks and, in particular Gary Cole for helping me with my coaching duties."

A few doors down Manfred Schaefer was receiving congratulations from elated Olympic supporters, who stormed the dressing room to share the glory and the enthusiasm of the moment with players and officials.

Schaefer said: "I am thrilled with our achievement and I wish to thank my players for their effort. At no stage was I worried about the outcome because, as I have said all along, we were the better side.

"The press had labelled us the underdogs, but once again we proved them wrong.

"I don't know at this stage whether I will coach Sydney Olympic in 1984. I



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JUVENTUS CREEP IN

The 1983 National Soccer League was brought up to its full strength of 24 teams in Melbourne over the weekend.

The final team to get in was Melbourne Juventus.

Investigations have been going on to ascertain if Juventus were a financially viable club and these have apparently satisfied the Australian Soccer Federation.

Juventus were taken into the National Competition at the expense of Fawkner, who also applied and had considerable backing.

There have been allegations that Juventus have long standing debts but Juventus officials persuaded the ASF that these were being attended to.

It appears Fawkner, a very progressive and enterprising club, failed in

HAKOAH REUNION

CALLING all former players, coaches, team-managers, physios, officials etc, to please contact Mr Bill Kadison at his office, (Sydney 02-33 3333), re the Hakoah 45th Anniversary.

Players in particular who were with the Club prior to 1955-1975.

The reunion concerns a special dinner at the Hakoah Club early in 1984.

All parties concerned can either phone or write to Bill Kadison at:
P.O. BOX 269.
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INDOOR SOCCER HITS AMERICA

BY ANDY PASHALIDIS

AN AUSTRALIAN Indoor Soccer party of men, women and youth are set to take America by storm.

Australian Indoor Soccer, which has been rapidly growing in past years, is set to increase in standard with this important trip.

Last year two teams, men and women, were sent to New Zealand by the Australian Amateur Indoor Soccer Federation and both teams defeated New Zealand soundly in a three Test series.

This trip, which has been organised through the efforts of the National director of Indoor Soccer, Joe Brent, and the US Cultural Exchange, will

be one of the most important in the sport's history.

All three teams will be competing in the highly rated Continental Cup against a Californian select in Los Angeles and a Washington select in Washington.

The Federal Government have been following the game with great interest recently and they have granted \$15,000 towards the cost of the trip.

National director of the amateur game in Australia, Joe Brent is confident of Australia's chances overseas.

"We have picked the best amateur indoor Soccer players in Australia for this trip. Last year when we played New Zealand a lot of people didn't realise that they fielded five players that went to Spain for the World Cup.

"The major reason for organising this trip is to establish international relations with the Americans. Believe me, they are taking this trip seriously and crowds of over 20,000 are expected at most of the games," Brent said.

In Los Angeles the men's team will be play-

ing in the Forum, the home arena of Indoor Soccer in Los Angeles which has a capacity of 35,000 spectators.

This trip is just the start of things to come for Australian Indoor Soccer in Australia. Next year an International tournament is being organised and already 12 countries have indicated that they will be competing.

The Australian Amateur Indoor Soccer federation began in 1972. At that stage only 42 teams were registered and all games were played in the one centre. At the end of 1982 the game is played in every state with a membership of 48,750 players. Age groups range from U/7 through to all age.

Indoor Soccer is one sport that has boomed over a short period. For a game that was formulated because many outdoor Soccer teams couldn't train because of bad weather, it has grown beyond all proportions and will continue to do so in future years.

NODDY MAKES NO PROMISES

FORMER World Cup star Adrian Alston has been appointed coach of Wollongong City after one of the biggest intrigues in the Wolves' short history.

Alston was one of 14 applicants for the job but he was not included on a short list for interviews on Saturday, November 5.

At that stage he thought he had lost any chance of getting the job but political moves within the Wollongong club resulted in him being called for a special interview two days later.

A reliable source said Alston had been original-

ly scrapped from the short list.

When this was about to be released to the media the City board summoned a hastily convened meeting to interview Alston.

Before the interview Alston told the board he realised he had been left out of the original interview list and made it clear he would be wasting his time and that of the club

at an interview if they didn't want him.

He was summoned to the interview at 5 p.m. on the Monday, interviewed at 6.30 and appointed later that evening.

It is no secret certain members of the board feel Alston is too controversial and outspoken to do a good job with the NSL side.

Alston has no qualms about his appointment.

"I know I won't have a very experienced side to work with in 1984 but young local players with ability will be given every chance," he said.

"It is going to be a long, hard season moulding virtually a new side but over a period of time the young players in this region will show just what they can do.

"I am hoping the job will give me time to develop this talent because success on this level doesn't come overnight."

Pandemonium broke out at the terminal as the aircraft carrying the Sydney Olympic team taxied up the disembarking dock.

The Olympic squad allowed all other passengers to disembark first.

The moment the huge terminal crowd caught sight of the first Olympic player coming out through the barriers a tremendous roar broke out through the airport, as fans chanted frenzily — OLYMPIC!!! OLYMPIC!!!

The roar reached absolutely deafening proportions, as the crowd surged forward when they spotted the Sydney Olympic captain, Marshall Soper, carrying the huge NSL Cup under his arm.

Passengers boarding other aircraft into different lounges stood in absolute amazement as they witnessed this deafening

emotional exhibition.

The Cup squad eventually left Mascot airport in cars and headed for their soccer club at Waterloo where again they were met by more than 800 screaming supporters that had jammed the streets and the clubhouse to await their arrival.

Every player was listed and carried into the packed clubhouse to deafening roars and applause like heroes.

Last to arrive into the club was 18 year old striker and scorer of both goals in the two legged cup final, Terry Petalis.

Had it been Pele, the crowd-electricity could not possibly have been matched.

It was a fitting reward for Sydney Olympic winning their first National Soccer trophy, to mark the celebration of this club's anniversary.

BY JOHN ECONOMOS



Alston is keen to become heavily involved in the promotion of the club and feels his experience in America will be a vital asset in this field.

Congratulations "Noddy" and let's hope the people of the South Coast get right behind you.

BY PHIL MURPHY

STOP PRESS

AT THE NSL council of clubs conference, held at the Southern Cross Hotel, Melbourne yesterday (Monday), it was decided that the League would revert to two points for a win as against the three points allowed during the 1983 competition.

It was also passed that

all clubs would be allowed to retain their

ethnic names.

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FARINA WAITS ON PHONE CALL

BY STEVE BURNS

FRANK Farina, one of Soccer's talented young breed, expects to leave Australia soon to trial with one of two famed English clubs — Manchester City or Newcastle United.

opoulos.

Christopoulos, son of Greek migrants, has signed to trial with AEK Athens.

Balancing the loss of Christopoulos and poss-

ibly Farina, is the strong likelihood of Arrows new manager Doug Collins persuading three other exciting young Australians to remain in Canberra.

Farina told ASW: "I'm expecting a phone call from Manchester City any day now."

But he stressed that nothing was definite.

Australian Institute of Sport soccer coach Jimmy Shoulder, who wrote to Newcastle United at Farina's request, said he had asked whether it was possible Farina would strike work permit problems like Christopoulos did.

"If this problem can't be fixed there would not be much point in going," Farina said.

"But I do want to trial in England. I want to see if I can make it in the toughest club competition in the world."

"Even if I do go, whether it's for a week, two weeks, two months or two years right now is totally up in the air," Farina said.

MARCONI JUNIOR SOCCER

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THAT WAS THE



Paul Kay

HEADACHES FOR SLICKERS' BOSS

By JOHN ECONOMOS

SYDNEY CITY failed by the solitary point to win the NSL Championship a fourth successive time — relinquishing the title to old enemy St George.

It was a tough year for coach Eddie Thomson. It is doubtful whether any other coach could have survived the strain with the turmoil at the club during the year.

And although Sydney City finished second on the League ladder, by their own high standards, 1983 would be looked upon as a failure.

A failure which would be so very much desired by no fewer than 14 other NSL clubs.

Thomson's task of winning another title was made so much more difficult when he lost John Spanos at the beginning of the year. Spanos transferred to Heidelberg United.

Then Thomson lost his powerful attacking midfielder, Jimmy Patikas, a player Thomson spent so much time developing, but who was transferred to Sydney Olympic for \$25,000.

Thomson commented: "We really missed 'Zorba' this year."

Worse still was the political upheaval in the club. Thomson must be complimented for maintaining spirit in the camp.

And to cap it off star striker David Mitchell joined Glasgow Rangers.

Mitchell was a big loss to Thomson and the Slickers — not to mention the Australian Captain, John Kosmina, whom "Mitch" partnered up front.

Sydney City's dynamic duo had been busted.

Thomson had to constantly take the field with a patched-up front line.

Star striker, Kenny "Mr Magic" Boden, was often injured, placing a further strain on Thomson.

Defender-midfielder, Gerardo Gomez, was spasmodically used up front.

Yet despite all the setbacks, Thomson piloted his team to end the season as the top goalscoring NSL outfit, hitting the target on 48 occasions.

And with his reliable back-four men of Souness, O'Connor, Robertson and Cant, only Newcastle and St George conceded fewer goals than Sydney City.

Sydney City gave away 30 goals, to give the team a goal difference of plus 18.

It was interesting to see sweeper Alex Robertson finally gain Socceroo recognition and hopefully he will be included in national coach Les Scheinflug's final squad for the defence of the Merlion Cup in Singapore next month.

As usual wee Joe Watson had another outstanding season.

But the player who really caught the eye was midfielder Paul Kay, having his first season with the club.

Thomson said of Kay: "If we hadn't got Kay, we could have finished fifth or even sixth."

LEICHHARDT PLANTS SOME SEEDS

BY TOM ANDERSON.

FOR APIA LEICHHARDT, 1983 was a year of rebuilding, a season when seeds were sown and foundations for success and stability were laid for the future.

It was a period for taking stock and preparation, implemented in a business like and professional fashion.

Many fine young players were unearthed and brought to the fore and the ways and means of running a successful and viable professional Soccer team in Australia were sought.

To their everlasting credit, Apia president Nick Papallo and his board did not look for instant success in a football climate where miracles are expected day by day.

Leichhardt finished in a respectable eighth position on the competition ladder.

In his first year as coach, Fil Bottalico gave youth its fling and throughout the season there were as many as 10 home grown players in his NSL side.

Of course through heartbreaking injuries to Mark Pullen and Bas Giampaolo, he was denied much needed experience in his squad.

Had this pair been fully fit throughout the season then the record book may have had a different look today.

The two missing factors in the Leichhardt team

was the lack of a lethal striker and also a solid defender at the back — positions Giampaolo and Pullen could have filled.

In the midfield Peter Tredinnick, John Bradley and Terry Butler were outstanding.

Tredinnick has always been a thoroughbred but really came to his best and was rewarded by being crowned Superstar of the Year and selection in the Socceroos squad for the Merlion tournament in Singapore in December.

Arno Bertogna, Ian Gray, Paul Carter and Mark Brown were exciting defenders and 1984 should see further improvement in this area.

Also, the signing of Berti Mariani proved good business.

Young Carter must be congratulated on his selection in the Socceroos squad.

In goal, Bobby Parkes came good and outshone a doleful Greg Woodhouse who did not have the happiest of seasons.

Up front, John Bradley filled in as a right striker and did well.

But analysing the playing staff — with one or two close season signings

— this Leichhardt team should be one of the most exciting combinations of 1984.

Leichhardt was also hampered by the vandalism of Lambert Park which caused playing problems and lost revenue to the club.

On the administrative

and business side, the club has laid plans to run Soccer on a business footing in 1984 as a limited company.

Summing up — 1983 was a season when positive steps and action were the order of the day from this stable club.



COACH SWITCH PAYS

BY FRED VILLIERS

THIS YEAR, Heidelberg weren't the team they were in 1982.

But that should be expected. After all, they did change their coach halfway through the season.

And this has become common practice in our game in Australia when things aren't going too well.

We saw the Bergers get off to a good start with the appointment of former Manchester United professional Ken Morton as manager-coach.

They were expecting a rocket-like rise to the top of the NSL. But it didn't come.

And the next sensational news item was the sacking of Morton and the appointment of former Australian Socceroo defender Jim Tansey in his place.

From the 10 games in which he prepared the side, Heidelberg finished with the impressive record of seven wins, two draws and a loss. A truly remarkable feat for a man who had not had charge of a League side before.

Gary Cole came back to make his critics eat their own words.

The player who made all the difference between winning and losing for Heidelberg was the well-built Charlie Yankos, a human dynamo.

Yankos is a great player and is certainly one who'll play a prominent part in Heidelberg's revival in 1984.

Another great Berger is Theo Selemidis who also starred with Gutendorf's Australian squad which toured Europe.

Even though Rudi's side failed miserably in their quest for a place with the World Cup elite in Spain, Selemidis has proved to be one of the outstanding players of the 80s.

Heidelberg may not have done what their supporters expected in 1983 but they can look ahead with confidence to next season — one which promises to put the Olympic Village club back on the football map.

WOLLONGONG AIMS TO CONSOLIDATE

THREE players who didn't turn out with the club can shoulder the "blame" for Wollongong City's poor results this season.

Peter Tredinnick, Arno Bertogna and Lee Adam left the club at the end of the 1982 season and with them went any chance coach Willie Wallace had of being successful.

Tredinnick and Bertogna

BY PHIL MURPHY

na went to Leichhardt and Adam returned to Perth, but if they had stayed it would certainly have been a different

story as far as Wallace is concerned.

Wallace summed it all up when he said the club has done things "back to front" since their entry into the NSL.

He claims he has had the struggle Ken Morton should have had in the first year. "They spent far too much then and were broke when I came along," Wallace said.

The plus for the season

has been that Wollongong were forced to blood a number of youth team players and this can only benefit them next season.

The likes of Scott Dickson now have to prove they have the dedication to go on with the job.

Phil O'Connor, of course, was the man Wollongong looked to in attack but he and Roy Cotton had a tough campaign

because they were always closely marked. They scored the majority of the team's goals despite this attention.

Captain Chris Dunleavy had injury problems but was as sound and as cool as ever when the defence came under pressure.

Big Ray Vlietstra showed a ton of club loyalty also by turning out week after week carrying injuries he inherited in Mexico during the Youth World Cup.

This naturally affected his performances at times but he will be a key man in the side after the summer's break. Vlietstra is a "destroyer" and a player who figures prominently in Les Scheinflug's national team plans.

Wollongong City prepare for the new-look NSL with a lot more confidence after their \$70,000 sponsorship deal from Kern Corporation.

President Laurie Kelly says the backing is a great boost for the code in Wollongong but his board can't be lulled in to a false sense of security.



NSW ASPA Player of the Year, Phil O'Connor

YEAR THAT WAS!

PRESTON CAN THANK OLLERTON

BY CON NIKOLOPOULOS

PRESTON player-coach Peter Ollerton is still trying to find the reasons for his team's failure to win the championship.

They led the national competition for more than 20 weeks and looked odds on to bring the title to Melbourne.

An unexpected slump in the closing stages forced Preston to lose their grip on the championship and eventually see it slip through their hands.

Their third place, equal on points with South Melbourne, may not be considered the fairest reward for Ollerton and his players, but it is an achievement in itself considering the rapid changes and problems they faced in the last two weeks of the championship.

What were the reasons

for Preston's slide from the top?

As Ollerton explained: "The loss of too many key players at the most crucial stage of the competition was the main reason for the collapse."

Indeed, for a period of some weeks, Ollerton was unable to field the same side. The prolonged absence of these key players upset the cohesion of the team - a striking feature in the early rounds.

Ollerton's problems increased when lively winger George Campbell departed for the UK and target man Claude Lucchesi flew to America for two weeks.

Lack of depth pre-

vented Ollerton from fielding substitutes of comparable calibre and the obvious result was an ineffective forward line.

Preston's driving force in this year's championship bid was former Varadar Skopje midfielder Zarko Odzakov.

The midfield general led Preston superbly through the rough passages of the championship with his tremendous skills, great anticipation and perfect ball distribution.

For that, Odzakov earned himself the reputation of the best import since the inception of the National League.

Victoria's best U/21 player of the year, Con Opasinas, also starred in this year's championship.

Opasinas became the top marksman for Oller-

ton and performed some of the most difficult tasks.

A great talent, he is destined to play a major role in Australian Soccer.

George Campbell, who transferred to Preston from South Melbourne at the beginning of the season, was also valuable in Preston's campaign.

He became the attacking avenue from the left, figuring in practically every move.

His services were greatly missed by Preston in the closing rounds of the championship.

Ollerton's contribution as a player and coach was outstanding.

Labelled the super-sub, Ollerton filled almost every gap and led by example.

The highlight of his performances was his hat-trick against West Adelaide which set Preston on the way to recovery after four consecutive defeats.

Overall, Preston's success in this year's NSL can be attributed to the great team spirit built by Ollerton, correct assignment of roles to his players and discipline.

The fact that they lost the title after leading the race for most of the way must not overshadow their achievements.

In the minds of most Soccer followers, Preston are the success story of the year, and for that they deserve congratulations.



The Preston team.

WEST'S ETHNIC PROBLEM

WHILE it is notorious for changing coaches in mid-season, West Adelaide also went ultra ethnic in 1983, as it struggled to stay out of the relegation zone.

And it looks like continuing in the same vein in 1984, and again trying to work on a shoestring budget.

Alan Vest, after a full 1982 season with the Greek-backed club, crashed out of favour af-

BY TOM MCKAIN

ter the 25th round and lost his place — "following a mutual agreement" — to assistant Peter Koulizos.

Apart from any official policy, Vest had fallen foul of the vocal majority of fans who wanted more youngsters with Greek names in the NSL line-up, and not left to languish in the reserves who were playing in the State League First Division.

Striker Wally Bojczuk and midfielder Stuart

Blair, signed from Azzurri, were put under tremendous pressure in the Ampol night series and Bojczuk returned to Azzurri and Blair went to Adelaide City.

In exchange, West signed Chris Manou from City and George Konstandopoulos from Azzurri, both players with Greek backgrounds.

With the team struggling, next to leave was striker Paul Wormley, an Englishman signed by Vest from Queensland.

When Vest left, two Englishmen were dropped — defender Bill Amey and midfielder Mickey Brennan — and told they would not be needed for 1984.

That was the last of the men signed this year by Vest, apart from goalkeeper Gary Sproul (English), who was signed on loan from Croatia when Martyn Cook was injured.

When Vest departed with five rounds to play, West were in 14th position with 27 points.

After the final round they were 13th with 33 points, Koulizos having pulled off a home win against Olympic, then an away three-pointer against Marconi in the final round of the season.

Yorke Motors provided \$11,000 sponsorship for West in 1983 and Able Pest Control put up \$6,000.

Welcome, but not enough, along with gate-takings, which at times fell below the 1,000 spectators mark, to help the club pay off its clubrooms in the heart of the city, nor prevent a move to cut the players' wages mid-season.

While West is attempting to retain star players in Robbie Dunn, Graham Heys, Ian McGregor and Graham Honeyman — the latter has already said he is quitting the NSL — their obvious "ethnic policy" will not be in their favour when it comes to retaining players with English and Scottish backgrounds.

It is "in" to be ethnic, and we applaud clubs who want to emphasise it, retain their cultural heritage and "old country" names.

But West might be carrying things a little too far.

If not, why didn't supporters flock back when Vest left and his signings were reduced to nil?

The truth is that everyone loves a winner, no matter what they are called, or what banner they fly under.

Unless West can look further than their own backyard for players, they will again be a struggling side.

For the record, here is their goalscoring list.

GOALSCORERS

- 6 — Steve Atsalas.
- 4 — Tim Brown.
- 3 — Graham Heys.
- 2 — Bill Amey, Paul Wormley, Robbie Dunn, Graham Honeyman, Mickey Brennan.

1 — John Panagis, George Konstandopoulos, Chris Manou.



Saints coach Frank Arok (right) and livewire winger Robbie Slater.

ST GEORGE — THE CHAMPS

By JOHN ECONOMOS

IN the best finish the NSL competition has ever had, the mighty St George took out the championship... when even four weeks before the end, they were generally not rated as having a chance.

Preston, Sydney City and South Melbourne were the bookies' choices.

But Frank Arok left his run late. Real late. So late in fact that even Alfred Hitchcock couldn't have staged the climax better. As well as winning the 1983 NSL, Saints almost pulled off the Ampol Cup again. In the Ampol Final replay with Marconi, Saints lost on penalties.

The St George club has historically been well managed. This year, with playing staff costs forever escalating, the management pulled in the reins from the very beginning of the season.

Football budgets were slashed by 38 per cent in anticipation of the bumpy times ahead for 1983.

Automatically, that meant to Arok, no new signings whatsoever. No increases in players' payments, whatsoever. No large playing squad, whatsoever.

So Saints began the season with the thinnest NSL squad in Australia. Whilst other clubs scrambled for signings left and right, so did Saints.

But not for players. Sponsors were the targets.

And after many many months of hard work, the Saints were able, through an elaborate syndication of sponsors, to raise some \$88,000 for the Soccer team and keep the ledger well away from disastrous losses.

St George, more than any Soccer club in Australia, were further strained with the overheads saddled upon them with running and maintaining their excellent Stadium at Rockdale.

The St George Stadium costs real money to run.

Fulltime groundsman, constant turfing, fertilisers, top dressings, water rates, leasehold, ground machinery, huge electricity bills, cleaning, security round the clock, insurances etc. etc.

You don't get much change from \$3,000 per week owning such a sports structure.

So, armed with only a thin NSL squad, manager-coach, Frank Arok, embarked upon his challenge for the NSL championship hoping his players' form and injuries would permit a title challenge.

Whenever one of his stars was sidelined with an injury, Arok was forced to plug the gaps with very young players.

Not 20 year olds, but 15 and 16 year olds often were rushed into the NSL team.

St George in winning the NSL championship, scored a total of 47 goals and conceded 27 to end the season with a goal-difference of plus 20.

The Saints won with 55 League points, one more than rivals, Sydney City, the NSL's champions for the last three years.

Like any champion team, Saints lost only one match at home all season.

Two players on the payroll, earned the distinct honour of having played in every round of the NSL. They were left-back, Robbie O'Shea and the industrious, underrated mid-fielder, Johnny O'Shea.

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THAT WAS THE YEAR THAT WAS!

DO KB BECOME THE CUBS?

BY MYLES HAY

TO what extent will Carlton United Breweries (CUB) support Newcastle next season? That's the question still to be answered despite a number of meetings with the company which took over the Tooth empire some months ago.

CUB have already provided \$15,000 to ease KB's immediate pressing financial problem when players' payments became due.

In fact, signing-on fees became signing-off fees so belated were they.

Yet despite all the gloom and despair of the boardroom, it certainly wasn't evident among the players who kept Newcastle in a challenging position right to the end.

This was a remarkable achievement and one

which would have broken many a more experienced coach than Ken Kaiser.

Yet the Newcastle-born Kaiser stuck manfully to his task, getting the best out of the players, continually keeping them away from the energy-sapping financial worries affecting the club.

But it was on the football field that Newcastle became a force to be reckoned with.

Their impressive scoring tally of 45 goals was

bettered only by a wonderful defensive record of conceding only 26 goals in 30 matches.

No other side could boast that fine rearguard work, with most credit going to English imports Peter Burke and Gary Wilson.

Their experience had a beneficial effect, particularly on teenage Raph Maier who proved a quick learner.

His defensive partner Howard Tredinnick suf-

fered a strange lapse in mid-season, appearing to become sluggish in some of his work. Then he re-emerged as a wonderful young prospect in the closing stages with some of the adventurous play which has been a hallmark of his play over the last few seasons.

It was in the midfield and up front where Newcastle stuttered from time to time, despite an impressive goalscoring record.

Little striker David Lowe led the scoring list with 10 goals, yet he suffered a lapse after a disappointing World Youth Cup series in Mexico City.

He looked stale, as though he had too much football, particularly in that most difficult of roles — the lone striker.

His front partner Bob Mountford had a disastrous season, nothing going right for the likeable Englishman. The more he tried the less successful he became and it says much for Kaiser's allegiance that he held a first team place throughout the season.

Midfield blew hot and cold all season mainly due to the inconsistency of the often brilliant Joe Senkalski.

Senkalski, not known for his strong work rate and often criticised by his team-mates for this failing, turned defeat into victory in some matches with his astute footballing brain.

Newcastle moved between the International Sports Centre and Adamstown Sports Ground throughout the season and averaged around 3,000 spectators at each of their home matches — quite creditable in comparison with most NSL sides.



David Lowe on the move for Newcastle.

BRISBANE CITY ON THE SKIDS

BY GREG RUSSELL

BRISBANE City's tumble from the top of the National League ladder must rate as one of the most disastrous slides in the history of the NSL — and club officials will have to work overtime this off-season to stop the rot continuing into 1984.

Brisbane City hit the top of the table in Round Seven after a 3-0 win over South Melbourne, their fifth win in seven matches. The following week they drew 0-0 with Sydney City to be edged back in equal second — then the slide began.

In the 22 remaining matches Brisbane City won only three times to plummet from third to third bottom. The slump began with a 4-0 routing by Lions and finished with a similar thrashing by St George in the final round.

This season was in many ways a transitional year for Brisbane City. New coach Jim Hermiston had taken over, and to be fair he gave everyone a chance to play for a spot.

It took him nearly half a season to fully assess his staff. In fact it wasn't until as late as five weeks before the end of the season that Hermiston made the bold move of axing experienced players Bill Williamson,

Frank Pimblett and Bobby Hamilton, his leading scorer.

Hermiston blames the slump on a loss of team rhythm caused by State team duties. Brisbane City supplied eight players to the squad which beat New South Wales 3-0 in May.

In the six games immediately after the interstate clash, City failed to win and were beaten by four-goal margins on two occasions.

It was a sad indictment on the team that tiny midfielder Bobby Hamilton should finish leading scorer with eight goals.

Hermiston tasted both success and failure with signings this year.

On the good side, the capture of Luciano Fabrizio was a feather in City's cap. Although quiet at first, and suffering injuries in his opening matches, Fabrizio, a former Young Socceroo squad member, matured with each match. Towards the end of the season he was beginning to show confidence exceeding his years and could well be the player to fill the hole left by the reliable Pimblett.

Although not a signing, the discovery of Angelo Falco is something Hermiston can look back on with delight this season. Falco was thrown in to cover for Young



The South Melbourne team.

SOUTH WEATHER THE STORM

BY CON NIKOLOPOULOS

SOUTH MELBOURNE weathered the heaviest storm in their history before rising to glory with their challenge for the National League title.

The turmoil following Rale Rasic's dismissal in the first round of the championship threatened to split the club and cause grave damage to its reputation.

The allegations about player-power forcing Rasic's dismissal upon the committee; the disagreements within the committee of management and subsequent resignations; the deep split among the membership and the poor performances of the side set the club on a time bomb ready to explode at any minute.

The arrival of Len McKendry and the

achievement of good results helped defuse the tension and gradually phase out the differences.

Players who failed to perform under Rasic, for unknown reasons, assumed leading roles under McKendry and contributed greatly to South's final placement in fourth spot.

Whether it was McKendry's magic touch or players' desire to compensate their committee and supporters for the early upsets, or their intent to prove Rasic wrong, is immaterial. What matters is that South Melbourne recovered miraculously and

ran an impressive race to the top.

South's recovery would have never occurred without the positive contribution of Rasic's recruits.

Rasic was criticised very strongly for exchanging George Campbell for Doug Brown. His judgment, however, was justified by Brown's climb to the top of the goalscorer charts.

The deadly striker scored 16 goals for the season, much to the surprise of the critics who had written him off.

Kenny Murphy, recruited from Melbourne Croatia, grew in stature day by day to become a leading midfielder.

Bobby Russell, the mighty defender, also excelled in his first year at South Melbourne. His solid tackling, anticipation of the game and frenetic runs upfield, helped him establish himself at right back. Russell also performed superbly in the centre of the defence, as an emergency.

But the revelation of the year was the cool-headed midfielder Oscar Crino. Week by week Crino kept on unfolding his great talent, while his fan club kept swelling Australia wide.

Rasic was advised against recruiting Crino.

Against the advice of the "experts" Rasic brought Crino to Middle Park, to succeed the great Jim McKay, in the role of playmaker.

John Yzendoorn, known for his ability, also proved a valuable acquisition. Venturing between the midfield and the defence, Yzendoorn has become the best utility player available.

The good performances of the newcomers were matched perfectly by those of the established members of the team to lift South to fourth position, a happy ending to a turbulent season.



The Brisbane City team.

Socceroo Stephen Glockner in May and by the end of the season was holding his place while Glockner was on the fringes.

On the debit side, Billy Williamson never climbed out of the rut he has fashioned for himself at Lions. As Hermiston said: "His bad games outnumber his good ones."

Hermiston is again looking to local players to boost his squad, although he will face the same problem as Lions in that his club will no longer have a Premier League team following the relegation to the Intermediate League in the QSF's restructuring.

Hermiston reportedly is still interested in Grange Thistle's two-time Rothmans medal winner Ken Swan and has a number of other locals on his list of players to sign for 1984.

The ever reliable Steve Perry is likely to back up again, with Billy Wilkinson, Kim Wishart, Hughes and possibly tireless campaigner Peter Tokes.

But after that it will be up to the youngsters.

At the moment, with the absence of players like Liddell, Pimblett and Hamilton there are glaring gaps in the City team. They are gaps which the youngsters will eventually fill. But in the immediate future, they won't be able to do everything.

WITH former West Adelaide coach Alan Vest due to sign for Perth's Spearwood or Perth Croatia, he is expected to send out a call for at least one of his former players. Centre back Robbie Dunn and winger Graham Heys are the favourites.

Dunn moved from Perth Croatia to Adelaide Azzurri then West.

Vest has already arranged to sign West midfielder Mickey Brennan, who has been transferred as an area manager for Target.

DID you know that one NSL player with a hard-up club, gets \$16,000 signing-on fee before he kicks a ball, plus \$200 a match, plus car allowance, plus training expenses?

He is not alone in taking out of Soccer far more than the game can afford.

Don't blame the player. Blame the clubs who are silly enough to pay that sort of money ... with cash they don't have.

No wonder so many of them are swamped with debts.



AMONG the new crop of coaches in the National League, Willie Wallace (Penrith City) and Adrian Alston (Wollongong) probably face the toughest jobs.

Wallace has to build a completely new team

CANBERRA Arrows VIP dinner club final night of the year will be its Christmas function on Wednesday, December 7.

It also serves to enable club members to meet the new coach Doug Collins.

And to add to the enjoyment of the evening the club has hired one of the best comedians to lend humour to the year's final function.

■ ■ ■

SYDNEY CITY are confident of operating next year on a budget of less than \$200,000.

That's a big drop from the days when the outlay used to creep towards the \$400,000 mark.

This year, the Slickers managed to finish NSL runners-up on a budget of \$190,000.

■ ■ ■

IT looks as if a suggested swap between Marconi and Canberra Arrows, involving Gary Byrne and Tommy Sermanni is not going to happen.

New Marconi coach Les Scheinflug stated: "Byrne is not joining Marconi."



BOBBY TOAL, the Green Gully striker who joined them last season from George Cross, has left for the UK.

It is not known whether he will be back in time for Green Gully's first season in the National League.

■ ■ ■

TWO defenders picked up top NSL awards in Adelaide.

West's centre back, Robbie Dunn, took out The News - Jarvis Ford \$1000 Golden Ball Award, while City sweeper Neil Banfield collected The Advertiser \$1000 Golden Boots Award, and the 5DN Player of the Year Award, voted for by the SA division of the Australian Soccer Press Association.

■ ■ ■

PHIL O'CONNOR looks certain to leave Wollongong, despite the change of coach and the new Kern sponsorship.

O'Connor has always commanded big money and he'd like to join a more affluent club.

His name has been linked with South Melbourne, Leichhardt and St George.

O'Connor, however, is in no hurry to make a decision.

■ ■ ■

COACH Peter Ollerton has signed for another year with Preston.

He said he would be buying two or three more players for next season to strengthen the side.

■ ■ ■

WEST Adelaide had, up to Press time, received six applications for the coaching job for 1984, with current boss Peter Koulizos heading the list.

as to whether or not their services will be required and a new contract is forthcoming.

I am in this position with Sydney City at present, my contract having expired at the end of the 1983 season. I know from my own point of view that a quick settlement gives you peace of mind to enjoy whatever break you get from the game and look forward to the coming season with great enthusiasm.

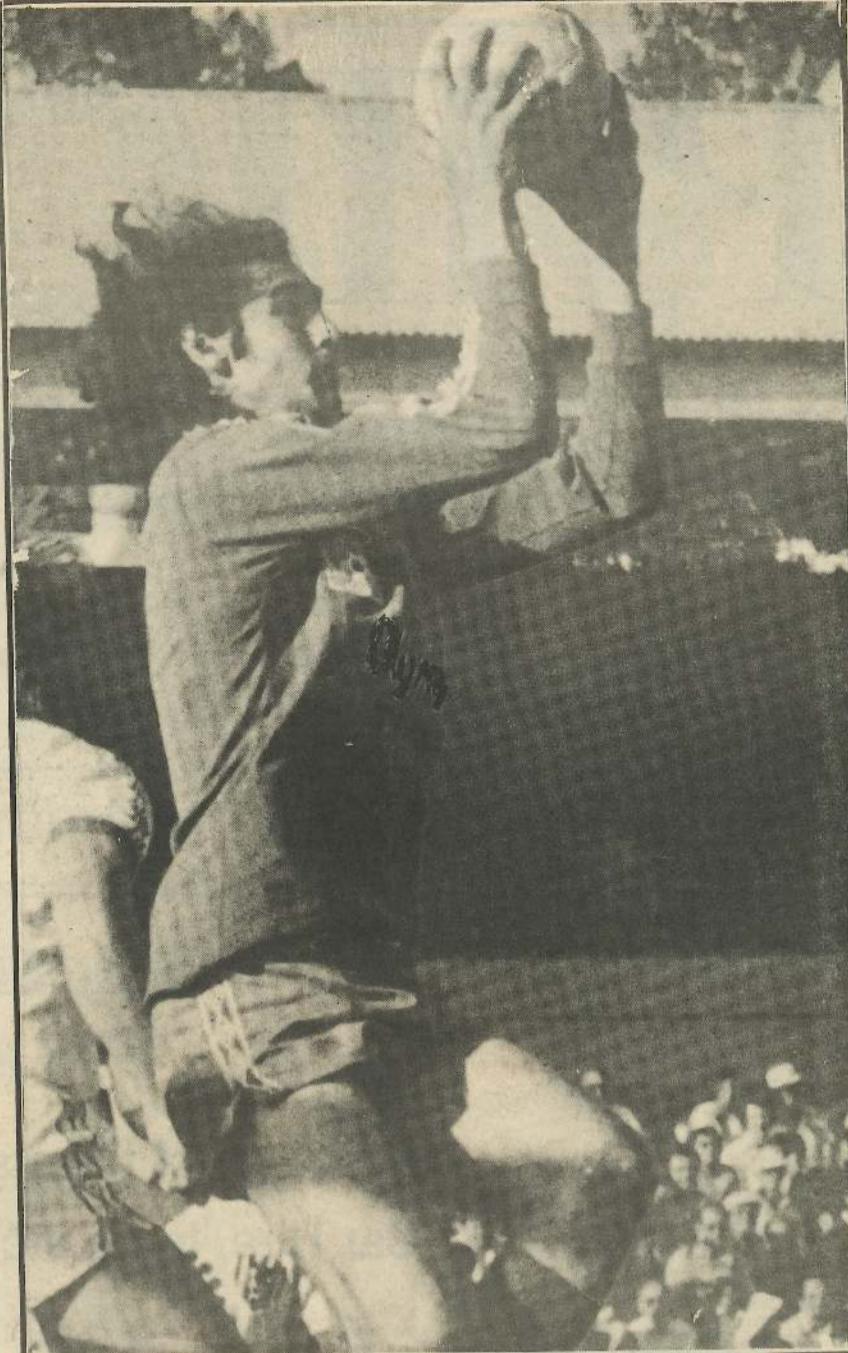
I think in fairness to players, clubs should endeavour to advise them as soon as possible as to their position for the coming year: players then have time to look around and listen to any offers and not be left out in the cold a couple of weeks before the season starts.

This sort of behaviour on the field is called gentlemanly conduct and the same rule should also apply off the field.

No player likes to be told he's no longer required, but if the club tells the player early and treats him in a dignified manner, very often there would be none of the bitterness that we often hear about.



Joe



Meier: flying high for Olympic.

GARY MEIER, Olympic's goalkeeper, should know every inch of the road between his home in Gosford and Sydney.

He drives to training three times a week and also to weekend matches.

"The round trip is 140 kms," said Gary.

"It doesn't worry me — I have four hours of peace while I'm driving," he said.

■ ■ ■

HOW about the Australian Soccer player recommended to a Greek club by an English team manager!

The player is George Christopoulos and he has joined AEK of Athens on trial.

He was recommended to AEK by Newcastle United boss Arthur Cox, who remembers the boy doing well in England.

QUEENSLAND SOCCER FEDERATION

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Applications in writing should be addressed to The Secretary, Queensland Soccer Federation, Perry Park, Abbotsford Road, Mayne, Brisbane, Queensland, 4006; to reach the office on or before November 18th 1983.

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On the waterfront...
Gary Shaw soaks up
the Sydney sunshine.

FUN IN THE SUN

ENGLAND might not have performed well against Australia but there was no shortage of fun on rest days between matches.



Full-back Phil Neal shows off one of his souvenirs of Australia.

Paul Walsh, Derek Statham, Gordon Cowans and Sammy Lee make new friends in Brisbane



Peter Shilton became the first footballer to make his mark in Sydney Harbour's famous walkway.



Ipswich team-mates Russell Osman and Terry Butcher pose before the famous Sydney Harbour Bridge.



Danny Thomas is dwarfed by an Australian soldier at the War Memorial in Melbourne.



ABOVE: Trevor Francis is welcomed to Sydney Airport by Australian mascot Mr Socceroo.
BELOW LEFT: Paul Walsh at the Lane Pine Koala Sanctuary.



The Wright way to throw a boomerang centre-half Mark Wright that is.

'SHOOT' GOES DOWN UNDER

English magazine "SHOOT," the best weekly on Soccer in the world, devoted a centre spread to England's 1983 tour of Australia. This is how "SHOOT" handled pictorial highlights of the tour — when the players took time off from playing against a dogged, determined, Australian team.



National coach Les Scheinflug (far right) pictured with three of the youth Socceroos. From left David Lowe, Ralph Meier and Tommy McCulloch.

THE KIDS TOOK THE HONOURS

BY TOM ANDERSON.

THE 1983 season is finally over and to coin a well worn phrase from military circles — at the going down of the sun and in the morning we will remember it!

Or rather part of it, the good parts we all like to remember.

I would be grateful if you will excuse me for being rather self-indulgent for my last ASW feature for 1983.

It's been a long, long season extending over an 11 month period that has taken me to far-off parts such as Costa Rica, Mexico, the USA and Japan.

Some of the moments savoured there and on the scene here at home I will remember for many a year — others will haunt me for the rest of my life.

The Young Socceroos dominated the year with their performances in Costa Rica in the final qualifying round of the World Youth Cup and their stint in Mexico for the final series.

The way these youngsters came back from the dead in Costa Rica to knock out Israel in the qualifying round was magnificent and for national coach Les Scheinflug and his youngsters this part of their lives will live for ever.

When young Tommy McCulloch stood up to collect the winners' trophy it

was not only qualification for the World Youth Cup Finals but Australia had gained total respect and admiration of everyone in Costa Rica.

I doubt whether there have been such fine ambassadors as the Young Socceroos in Central America before.

Then it was on to Mexico for the finals and all the drama and pressure that accompanies such a series.

There was the usual comedy of errors over hotels, both in Mexico and the return visit to Costa Rica.

Then of course there was the history making episode when Australia was an hour late for the kick-off for the opening game of the series against Mexico at the Azteca Stadium.

And despite having to get out of the coach and run the last few kilometres to the ground, the Young Aussies held host nation Mexico to a great 1-all draw in front of a hostile 110,000 crowd.

On such a night with so much happening, I'll never forget ASW editor

David Jack and myself battling to grab the only two phones in the stadium to get the news back to Australia.

There were 300 other journalists from around the world with the same idea.

Then there was the memorable victory over Scotland, followed by the defeat by South Korea in the rarified atmosphere of Toluca.

Mexico 1983 certainly had its moments one way or another!

Immediately afterwards there were the Socceroo battles with England here in Australia.

The Socceroos certainly tugged the Lion's tail but I am still convinced the Lion could have been slain.

The big memory for me in this series was the way Phil O'Connor and Joe Watson took on the England defenders with sheer skill and came out on top; also the magnificent defending of David Ratcliffe.

On the local club scene we had the irrepressible Tommy Docherty wisecracking his way into the sports pages in his usual

fashion.

Then came the bust up with Olympic and sordid incidents which did little for the game here.

Saints put on a real magic moment when they won the NSL with a fantastic 4-0 win over Brisbane City in the final game.

As a club St George has something about it that endears it to the hearts of everybody.

Nobody in the game can forget the rise of David Mitchell to the top of the tree with Glasgow Rangers.

Here was a youngster with the complete confidence in his own ability and with the courage to buy out his own contract to reach the top.

When David Mitchell made it with Rangers he did himself and Australian Soccer proud.

It was also a very gratifying moment for me to be present in Tokyo when big Steve Paterson signed a lucrative contract with the Yomiuri club.

Here was a fine player who had been treated shabbily in Sydney having his talents fully recognised in another country.

There's a moral here somewhere, and the last hasn't been heard of this champion striker who proved during his short stay here to be the best target man in the NSL.

At the end of the season it has come to light that there will be a ban on New Zealanders next year which indeed is another highlight.

But really it hasn't been a bad year and one that saw the standard of play and the emergence of young players spiral.

I think it also paved the way for 1984 which should really see Soccer progress.

Maybe you have different ideas on this matter, but I believe in looking on the bright side of life.

READERS FORUM

In this spot every week, we shall publish extracts from readers' letters — good or bad! If you want your opinions aired, please keep letters and postcards short and to the point. Write to The Editor, Australian Soccer Weekly, 261 Broadway, NSW 2007.

SICKENING

WORDS fail me when trying to analyse the recent decision to accept Penrith City into the NSL.

Perhaps I could understand the reasons if clubs of the calibre of Sutherland and Manly (to mention only two) were not applying.

It sickens me to see a MAJOR blunder occur once again. We here in Newcastle had to suffer, at what can only be called incompetent administration, over the mid-season fixture foul-up.

How can the directors and officials of those established clubs must feel is probably unprintable.

To any logical, unemotional being, the vote should have gone to areas where an untapped source of Australian Soccer talent was waiting to be given a chance.

Should the powers that be take time to read my letter, and I'm sending them a copy, they may well say it doesn't affect Newcastle Soccer people.

I only hope pressure can be put on those who made this monumental mistake and a reversal of the decision can be made.

May I through your paper pass on my support to those who have already worked hard and accrued excellent credentials to play in the top Soccer competition.

Keep fighting Manly. Keep fighting Sutherland — we may well play at Cromer or Seymour Shaw in 1984.

I'm now shaking my head. I cannot believe the outcome of the meeting of men who run our code.

Eddie Boards
President-Newcastle United Supporters Club.

WHAT RULES?

I WAS very amused by the article in ASW (1/11/83) titled "Food for Thought", written by some character in the Canberra Times.

He must be a comic strip writer to even compare Victorian football, or even suggest that it is more skilful or intelligent than the greatest international football code in the world — the only truly Australian national game played throughout the country, and every suburb.

Victorian football is wrongly misnamed "Australian Rules". What rules? A bunch of overgrown men running around a field aimlessly, pushing, scrambling, jumping for and punching a little ball, kicking into goals from anywhere on the field.

Even in the goalmouth into goalposts so huge that even blind Freddie, with two wooden legs couldn't miss.

They call it "Aussie", another misnomer. The game is a throwback to another game of similar standard which originally well trained players.

GOOD STUFF

I TOOK Johnny Warren's advice and went out to the Sydney Olympic, Heidelberg United game at Barton Park.

And I can say in all honesty I have not been so entertained at a football match since the World Youth Cup in 1981.

Jeff Oliver for Heidelberg was in great form. Jim Patikas for Olympic was outstanding: when he played well so did the rest of the Olympic team.

The atmosphere was incredible with trumpets, drums, flags and the continuous cheering of the fans.

If this is Australian football, all I can say is give me more.

D. Gale,
Mona Vale.

SKINHEADS

IN reply to all the letters concerning the Sydney City Skinheads this year, let me point out that of all the skinhead (or so called) contingent, there are only about four or five TRUE skinheads. The rest of the group are all British kids who happen to love football very much. And on the subject of City winning the yellow card competition, the team, and I know them all well, do not go out and purposely hack and cut down opposing players.

City is just a hard team, which explains the continued success they have had in the NSL.

M. Howell,
Miranda.

nated in England — a skilful game of true football, called Soccer.

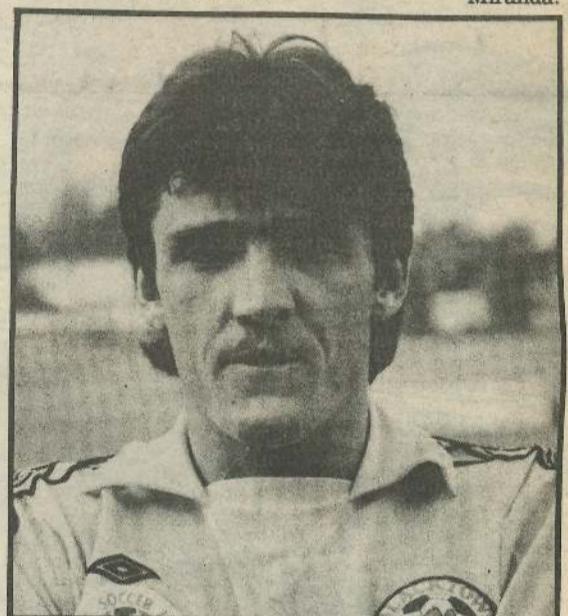
Eventually, and naturally, the original game went to Ireland, and with a few modifications it became Gaelic football. Finally it came to Melbourne, Australia, possibly by my old ancestor Paddy Finnegan, from what I've been told about him, he was a great prankster, always playing jokes on somebody.

I can fully understand Hugh McIlvaney's puzzlement when he first saw his game of Victorian football, trying to follow the pattern of play.

I had the same problem at my first game. Even though I had a couple of experts with me, they could not give me a true and expert reply to my queries on the so called rules.

Victorian football and if you like Aussie Rules, has as much chance of becoming an international sport as American Gridiron, and that is none. I even doubt very much if it would ever become Australia's national football code.

Jack Mennie
Gateshead West



Bruce James,

BRUCE FAN

JUST a short letter to express my congratulations to Marconi's Bruce James on selection with the squad for the tour in December to defend the Merlion Cup in Singapore.

This is a well-deserved selection for Bruce as he has been at his peak in recent months.

Just hope now that with a strong team to defend the Cup, it will return to Australia.

Bruce James Fan Club
Sydney.

These were Peter Hensman, who dominated as a winger, Steve Watson, our fantastic goalkeeper who was absolutely brilliant, Graeme Arnold, who we could rely on to score some superb goals, Bruno Vidaic, our wonderful captain whom the crowd really appreciate watching and who always gives the team confidence.

Last, but not least, Brett Woods, who provided talented Soccer and showed the tactics of sport. Without him and the whole team effort, we wouldn't have made it even as far as the semi-finals.

Congratulations Croatia. Keep it up always, and make our good name shine out as you did through the whole year.

Georgina Bricc & Friend,
(Croatia Supporters)

Sydney.

P.S. We read SOCCER WEEKLY every week.

REAL FAN

AS a keen supporter of State League team, Croatia Sydney, I would like to congratulate the side on an extraordinary season. It was a tough but well deserved final for our team. We had exceptionally well trained players.



David Mitchell (right) one of the success stories from the 1983 season.

STALWARTS CROWNED

NEWLY crowned Australian Soccer champions St George have been innovators in many aspects of Australian Soccer.

So it comes as no surprise that they've started doing something the ASF and other clubs should have done a long time ago.

And that is to honour their long serving players.



Doug Utjesenovic

Doug Utjesenovic and George Harris.

The honour takes the form of life membership and a special seat for life in the St George Stadium together with a gold and diamond lapel badge.

Right: George Harris (right) being congratulated by Atti Abonyi.



NORTH ROCKS FORGE AHEAD

After being League winners in the Granville Association competition, the North Rocks Under 10 team went on to defeat Earlwood 3-1 in the final of the Champion of Champions.

In the preliminary games they defeated Dubbo Westside Panthers 6-1, Colo Shire 3-2, Marconi 1-0 and Sylvania Heights 4-1.

They have had a very successful season, when earlier they won the Barry Donnelly Trophy at

Greystanes and the trophy within North Rocks club for the team scoring the most goals in a season at an average of 5 goals per match.

Five of the boys were also in the Under 10 Granville Representative

team which were successful in the Metropolitan and State Championships coached by Allan Maher. Also two boys were selected in the Metropolitan West PSSA team which also won the State Championship.



Left to right standing: Brian Crews (Coach), Brendon Porteous, Glenn Randall, John Frare, Gary Black, Cameron Murray, Andrew Crews, Daniel Harris, Tristan Rimmer, Roger Black (Manager). Front Row: Travis Plane, Jason Leotta, Anthony Johnson, Dean Ide, Brendan Renaud, Brad McCombe.

EIGHT NATION CUP AT JAMISON OVAL

THERE will be little rest for Canberra top players this year as the Monaro Travel European Soccer Cup gets under way next weekend.

The Monaro Travel European Soccer Cup features eight nations — Australia, England, Greece, Italy, Scotland, Yugoslavia, South America and a World eleven, and it kicks off on Saturday, November 19, at Jamison Oval.

Games will be played on Sunday, November 20 and also the following Saturday and Sunday, November 26 and 27.

The Cup commemorates the 40th Anniversary

of the Republic of Yugoslavia and is being administered by Mauro Valeri, Zoran Savich and Danny Savich.

Many of the national capital's star players will be involved as well as some guest stars from Sydney, headed by Saints Dez Merton.

Australia will be represented by Andrew Young, Mark Francis, Chris Hummel, Ray Junia, Marco Perinovic and Craig Leith amongst

others whilst the various key players on the other teams are:

England: Ian Haywood, Terry Byrne, Phil Redmond, Roy Stark, Duncan Cole, John Walsh, Peter Byrne, Terry Jeffrey.

Italy: Mauro Valeri, Walter Valeri, Sebastian Giampaolo, Tony Morsello, Angelo Ambrosino.

Greece: Peter Mazis, John Matsopoulos, Nick Doudakis.

Scotland: John Brown, Alister Link, Ian Murray,

Ian Purdie, Ian Gibson, Donald MacLaren.

World II: Joe Arquero, Keni Kawalevu, Mike Tuvalevu, Steve Ramsden, Craig MacLain.

South America: Aldo Charles, David Arellano, Luis Alarcon, Vic Fernandez senior and junior.

Yugoslavia: Dez Merton, Branko Karanfilovski, Les Kozmar, Tom Mihailovic, Rade Popovic, Danny Savich, Zorro Savich and Ivan Duvnjak.



Mr David Harris (left) receives his Life Membership award from the President the Australian Schools Soccer Federation Mr Chapman Bennen at a function at Spencer Park following the ASSF championships. Mr Harris, who is a Deputy Principal at a Queensland State High School, served as President of the ASSF for two years and worked tirelessly to rewrite the constitution and by laws of the ASSF.

CAPTAIN SOCCEROO

WITH JOHNNY WARREN

SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Con Alexandrakis — Watson.
A. Shilling — Coogee.
Adam Shacallis — Revesby.
Jim Laskaris — Wollongong.
Richard Prior — Northmead.
David Navarro — Leichhardt.
Mark Markezic — ACT.
Zoki Adioski — Hurstville.
Myles Buckley — Hornsby Heights.
Chris Petkovski — Queanbeyan.



STEPHENS SPORTS TRAVEL

wishes to announce that individual, group and team itineraries for Australian teams to compete in European youth and senior tournaments for 1984 and 1985 are now being drawn up by Stephens team of sporting travel experts for further particulars contact John Lane or Gillian Harman (02) 231 3833



AROUND NEW SOUTH WALES



KNIGHT IS TOP PROSPECT

BY ANDREW PASCHALIDIS

KU-RING-GAI, currently playing in the NSW State League first division, have been well served throughout the 1983 season by midfield general Stephen Knight.

Born in 1963, Knight has just turned 20 and a bright future in the game is tipped for him. Ku-Ring-Gai coach Harry Noon holds him in the highest regard.

Stephen is one of the best prospects in the State League. We signed him up from Sydney Olympic earlier in the season. He is the classic midfield player — tall, strong, kicks with both feet and can defend and attack.

Another fine product from the Gladesville-Hornsby district, Knight has also experienced the traumas and tribulations of the National Soccer League.

From the age of 11 through to 16 he played for the Gladesville-Hornsby representative side and in 1980 played first grade for the same club in the third division.

In 1981 he joined the Sydney Olympic national youth league side and stayed there for two seasons. It was his junior representative coach Stephen Blatchford who contacted Noon to see if he would be interested in his services.

From that day he hasn't looked back and has played with flair and purpose for the Chasers from the time he was selected in first grade after six rounds.

At the moment the club are keen to retain his services and this will be negotiated within the next couple of weeks. An apprentice electrical fitter, Knight was quite surprised with the standard of the NSW State League.

"I was shocked to find how quick the game was," he said.

"In the NSL you have players that slow the game down and then speed it up when it's needed. I think the top six teams in the State League this year could hold their own in the NSL," Knight added.

Like all young players on the way up there have been people who have influenced him along the way.

"Both my parents have supported me all along. They always have time for me. Three other people have been a great help — Phil Willcox, Lubo Goycovic and Harry Noon," said Knight.

Stephen Knight is certainly one player who, if he remains dedicated to the game, will stamp himself on the Soccer map in the not too distant future.

NSW NEWS

YOUNG Blacktown City strikers John Larkin and Michael McLaughlin have resigned with the Demons for the 1984 season.

Another player who will prove to be a big hit in the National League is Blacktown's most promising young player of the year, Brett Thorne.

The club are currently negotiating with Australian and Canberra Arrows player Gary Byrne, Footscray defender and ex-Blacktown player Brian O'Donnell. Defender Tony Rasmussen still has a year to run on his contract and midfield pair John Stoddart and Stuart Selvage have agreed to terms.

KU-RING-GAI are looking to bolster their side during the off-season. The Chasers suffered a setback with the loss of Stuart Regan midway through the second round.

With the amalgamation of the Uruguayan club, and probable inclusion of

Negotiations are currently under way with Bankstown pair Alan Bourke and Brett Gilligan. Two other players, Billy Palmer and Derek Laing, are on a free transfer and attempts will be made to sign them up during the off-season.

On the home front regular first grade player Terry Bertram signed a life contract recently by getting married.

■ ■ ■

AUBURN-URUGUAY are still having talks with a candidate for their coaching position. Once this has been finalised the club will start to negotiate contracts with most of the players.

With the amalgamation of the Uruguayan club, and probable inclusion of

JOHNSON IS BACK

MIKE JOHNSON is one of Australia's top Soccer coaches and he rocked the Soccer world earlier this year when he resigned as coach of Fairy Meadow to spend more time with his association with the Mormon Church.

Now he has successfully applied for the job again and will sign a year contract.

Johnson's return to Soccer came as a surprise to everyone connected with the game in the South Coast because he was adamant he had given up all his Soccer connections.

He told ASW he has returned to help promote the Mormon Church because they feel he should be allowed to do what he specialises in and let people know the church caters for individuals in all walks of life.

"They see my work as coach of Fairy Meadow as a form of promoting the Mormon faith and spreading the word about the church," Johnson said.

"I had lengthy talks with church officials before they said the final decision was up to me.

"Two members of the church in particular have been keen to have me become involved in Soccer again."

Johnson originally thought he would be able to coach the team on Saturdays but he will also be available on Sunday afternoon.

He has to spend three hours in church each Sunday morning but the church feels he can fulfil his Soccer obligations in the afternoon.

Johnson has been heavily involved in church activities since February and left Fairy Meadow when they were unbeaten and favourites to win promotion. After he left they lost the momentum and finished in fourth place.

He said he is hoping the players give him the same

support they gave him before his resignation.

For the past three seasons he has been playing with North Bankstown Youth League teams and this year he also played for the third grade side.

Everyone at the club, especially his coach Bob Burns, have been very helpful and encouraging this year.

No doubt Peter is very thankful for the support his parents have given him throughout his playing career. Behind every

good player there usually are two supportive parents.



Peter is at an age where most young players either make the top grade or don't. All supporters, players and officials from North Bankstown wish "blackshorts" every success.

BY ANDREW PASCHALIDIS

YOUNG 15-year-old North Bankstown midfielder, Peter "blackshorts" Kalamvokis, was voted rookie of the year at the club's annual presentation recently.

A local product from the Bankstown area, Peter started playing at the age of four with the Crest Soccer club and then moved to Bass Hill RSL, with whom he played with from the age of eight to 12.

For the past three seasons he has been playing with North Bankstown Youth League teams and this year he also played for the third grade side.

Everyone at the club, especially his coach Bob Burns, have been very helpful and encouraging this year.

No doubt Peter is very thankful for the support his parents have given him throughout his playing career. Behind every

NORTHERN NSW NOTES

BY 1985 the Northern NSW Soccer Federation Directors plan to stabilise their divisions. State first division, 10, second division, 10, and third, fourth and fifth division all with 12 teams.

However the clubs at the AGM could overturn that decision. It is to be hoped they don't.

■ ■ ■

REGIONALISING the State is a high priority in Northern NSW. At the moment only Tamworth from the North West plays in the State first division.

A strong regional competition is vital. There are top competitions along the coastal strip and Soccer is booming.

State Director of Coaching Jim Foley is constantly visiting the far Regions giving coaching courses to the eager recipients.

■ ■ ■

THE Northern NSW, Newcastle Suburban League will be bursting at the seams in 1984. This is a prediction by some directors. It was suggested that this competition will have to be played in four divisions next year.

The All-Age competition is for clubs with only one team and is played on Sunday mornings.

FA Cup Medal winner Mike Tribilcock has taken over as coach of Northern NSW State first division team Lake Macquarie.

Under Wayne Leary and Barry Boslem, Lake Macquarie won the 1982 Premiership but this year dropped back several places.

Mike Tribilcock has had success as coach of Cardiff, Mayfield and Stewarts and Lloyds.

■ ■ ■

Articles in ASW from time to time refer to the "artificial boundary" between NSW and Northern NSW. Often they have no by-line and this disturbs people north of the Hawkesbury.

The vast, overwhelming majority of Soccer personnel do not regard the boundary as artificial. It is real and must stay that way.

The North would never want to go back to former days when they were the ultra poor relations of a NSW Federation.

The Northern NSW baby is alive and well, and even though suffering at times from growing pains, is well able to care for itself.

This year's results, including Newcastle United, Newcastle United Youth Squad, State Under 16, Kadina High in

the Commonwealth Bank Cup, Cessnock High in the Bill Turner Cup are sufficient to justify the states existence.

No, the border is not artificial, it was established on a sound structure by men of knowledge and understanding. No amount of Jericho trumpet blowing will topple the walls.

■ ■ ■

LAKE Macquarie Municipal Council now has a larger population than Newcastle. It is a real growth area. On the Southern tip of Lake Macquarie Soccer is about to really boom.

Centred around Morisset, the interest in Soccer is tremendous. The Morisset Junior Soccer Club is bursting at the seams while the Senior Club could realise four teams in 1984.

Little Cooranbong, home of the 'Weet-Bix', supports a suburban leagues club. Areas such as Dora Creek, Wyee, Eraring, Bonnels Bay, Brightwaters, Sunshine and the like are brimful of youngsters ready to be brought into the Soccer fold.

It is fair to suggest that the Morisset area could well support a sound divisional side by 1985.

— BILL TURNER

ALLAN CALLS IT A DAY

BY ANDREW PASCHALIDIS

POPULAR NSW player Don Allan has decided to retire after playing his last game for Melita in the 1983 grand final replay.

Allan, a striker with a proven track record, has finally succumbed to a problem faced by many of his counterparts — work commitments.

A finance manager with a TV company, Allan felt that he couldn't devote as much time to the game as in previous years.

"Business has taken up a lot of my time this year. I advised Melita four weeks before the end of the season I would be retiring and with their playing in the National League next year I felt I wouldn't have enough time to commit myself for another year," Allan said.

Born in Sydney in 1954, Allan is a player with a fine record.

He started his junior career in the Gladesville-Hornsby district and was chosen to represent NSW at 16. From there he moved to Western Suburbs and then to Granville.

He spent three seasons with Granville and it was at the end of 1975 that he first teamed up with current first grade coach at Melita Eagles, Raul Blanco.

With the formation of the National Soccer League in 1976, Allan spent the first three years of the competition at Olympic. In fact he played in the first ever National League game between Sydney Olympic and South Melbourne!

During the past five years Allan has played for the Eagles scoring 76 goals.

als in League and Ampol Cup appearances. In this period at Melita, Allan has been guided by some of the most popular coaches in NSW Soccer.

1979 — Raul Blanco
1980 — Atti Abonyi
1981 — Vic Dagliess
1982 — Vernon Darvill
1983 — Raul Blanco

I asked Allan which coach influenced him the most at Melita.

"Raul Blanco stands out. He always has the time to talk to players and

motivate them. With this sort of attitude a player responds quickly to his instructions. He always gets that extra out of a player," Allan said.

Allan was quick to praise all the people at the Melita club for the support and help they had given during his stay there.

Don Allan has a fine playing record and everyone in Soccer wishes him all the best.

Well done Don Allan.



Don Allan (right) climbing high to challenge

BERRIES STRONG PUSH FOR NSL

BY ANDREW PASCHALIDIS

NSW State League side Canterbury-Marrickville aims to win the 1984 competition and automatically be promoted to the NSL the following year.

Club secretary Damian Fokas is very confident of the club's chances next year.

"One thing that stood out this year are the results our juniors and third grade side achieved. We blooded a lot of young players in our first grade team and they performed

very well.

"We are happy with the current crop of players but we aim to buy a couple of proven players next year. Let's face it if we can win the competition next season we will be promoted to the National League in 1985," Fokas said.

If Arlington Oval could be updated the club would have first class facilities. Financial stability in their social club has been reached through the hard work of the committee and members. In fact the social club and the Soccer club are run by the same committee.

successful inter-district representative side.

The Fernhill side's Manageress, Margaret Cooper, told me that her side was the winner of the 1983 South Coast premiership and as well, also won the Association Cup.

After a count-back, the team became the Runner-Up in the Minor Premiership after the contest was decided on goal difference.

In 1982, the side won all three trophies and look like staying together for the 1984 season.

The side is coached by John MacDonald who is a local first division player. He is highly respected in the district and also coaches the Wollongong Olympic men's side.

Fernhill has no less than seven Illawarra representative players in its team.

Lisa MacDonald, a centre forward and one of the top strikers in the Illawarra competition, Julie McGuffie, a highly rated forward and also a past State player, Julie Norris, an Illawarra Under 17 rep. in 1982 and 1983 who is a consistent mid-fielder.

The other representatives in the side are Lyn Dingleman who is a midfielder and also a prominent indoor Soccer player of State standard, Janet Pengelly, who not only is a very reliable centre half but a first class goalkeeper as well, Robyn Funnell, the captain of the side and Jan Kerridge, the super fit sweeper of the team and a 1982 State player.

The South Coast representative side were the State Champions in 1982 and runner-up to Gladesville-Hornsby this year when the State Championships were held on the South Coast.

Two members of the Australian side which will go to Noumea this month for the Oceania Cup, were honoured this week when they were selected as two of the twelve finalists in the "Sportsman of the Year" competition held on the Central Coast of NSW at Gosford.

They are Renaye Iseri and Karen Menzies.

It is the first time that two women Soccer players have been so honoured in the same contest which is sponsored by a local newspaper and a radio station in Gosford.

Almost all the players in first grade are on the same paying terms and to escape huge signing on fees the players aren't put on a contract.

At this stage the coach for next season has not been decided. This will happen when the new committee for next year is elected.

The club has a wealth of young talent who performed admirably in the first grade team this year. Spiro Hantzis, Nick Theodorakopoulos, Bill Vassiliou, Tim Andreou and Tony Antonopoulos, all under the age of 21, have agreed to terms offered for the 1984 season and if they stay with the Berries, next year should be a success.

SOUTH COAST BLOSSOMING

MOST of the women's associations have closed down for the 1983 season but little items still keep filtering through to my desk.

One of these was from the South Coast women's Soccer association in

NSW.

The two photographs shown here are from their



Fernhill back row: John MacDonald, Lisa MacDonald, Julie McGuffie, Julie Norris, Lyn Dingleman, Joanne Palmer, Janet Pengelly, Margaret Cooper (Manageress) front row: Debbie Jones, Robyn Funnell, Janice Reilly, Jan Kerridge, Amanda Sowry.

VICTORIA REPORTING

LEAGUE LOOKS STRONG

VICTORIA'S new Metropolitan League Division One will be one of the strongest competitions in Soccer next year.

The new clubs coming into the League because of the reshuffle caused by the departure of four State League clubs into the NSL, have made the division one of the most competitive in the Victorian Soccer Federation.

New clubs are Springvale City, Nunawading City, Sunbury United and Thomastown.

Both Kew Celtic and Bell Park, who were officially relegated because

they finished on the bottom of the League this year, have been retained.

This means they will have another chance to prove they are worthy of staying in the top division of the Metropolitan League in 1984.

Other teams which make up the League are Melbourne, Doncaster Rovers, Altona Gate, Moreland, Werribee, Altona City, Richmond, and North Dandenong.

The tournament will be played over four Sundays with the final on De-

OLD STARS STILL SHINING!

SIXTY-THREE year-old Mario Busidoni will be the oldest man playing Soccer in Melbourne during the next three weeks.

Mario, a former star centre-half with Adelaide Juventus, Slavia and Melbourne Juventus, has organised a veterans' competition which will be played on Sundays at Bulleen Veneto Social Club.

With him will be some of the old time stars like Frank Micic and Tom Stankovic of Footscray, Mike de Bruyckere, of Ringwood Wilhelmina, Steve Zakomarok (now in his early 60s), Joe Voros (ex-Melbourne) and Peter Ballasoni (ex-Thomastown).

The tournament will be played over four Sundays with the final on De-

cember 11, at 10 am. Teams taking part include Footscray, Ringwood Wilhelmina, Juventus and Melbourne.

Games will be played over two 35 minute periods and official referees will be in attendance.

Mario came to Australia from his native Italy where he played for Torino. He arrived here in 1951 and played with Adelaide Juventus until he transferred to Melbourne Juventus.

He was one of the first winners of the Argus Medal in Melbourne having won it in 1955.

Tony says he's consider-

NORTHCOTE TO TRY FOR 1985

NORTHCOTE City which failed to gain a spot in the National League is determined to be there next year according to club secretary George Karastavrou.

Northcote, the surprise packet of the State League this year, thanks to the leadership of manager-coach Tony Vrzina, were lucky to finish ninth as they had limited funds and players.

Vrzina has not signed for next season but secretary Karastavrou says the club are keen to have him next year and have already discussed a contract which he feels Vrzina will accept.

Tony says he's consider-

all depends what sort of team they will give him.

He told AUSTRALIAN SOCCER WEEKLY: "You can offer me \$100,000 to win the League with Albion Rovers team and offer me only \$1000 to win it with Croydon or Polonia and it will be better and safer to take the second offer."

On the debit side, Northcote players are upset because they didn't receive an invitation to the Presentation Night last week.

But they shouldn't be upset because the Press didn't get an invitation either!

Only four players received invitations. They were Steve Moore, Mark Wilson, George Bozikas and Johnny Giannopoulos.

Of these only two turned up — Moore and Wilson.

Could this mean that there is unrest among the players and the committee?

CHULLORA WOLVES OUTSTANDING RUN

The squad is: Angelo Spathis, Tony Cetin, Robert Smith, Mark Nutall, John Nikolovski,

George Markovski, Steven Stoddart, Paul Watkins, Greg Marfutenko (captain), Alex Campbell,

Marcial Sousa, Colin Walther, Thomas Foulkes, Colin Towle, Ray Malavazos, Matthew

Hanrahan, Stephen Walfenden, John Bucinskas, Ralph Gargiulo, Brad Calderon. Coach Bob Fer-



PETKOVSKI — SAINTS' BRIGHT YOUNGSTER

PETER Petkovski is yet another young player who is making his way to the top in Australian Soccer.

Last week he was voted the 'Most Improved Player' in the St George Youth team.

But that wasn't all. Peter played 18 times for the Saints, who turned out to be the National Soccer League champions.

Peter was born at Bitala in Macedonia, and was brought out to Australia by his parents when only four years of age.

He played as a junior

from under 9 with Arncliffe Scots, and represented NSW at primary schools level as an under 12.

Later, whilst at Kogarah High School, Peter represented the St George region in the intra-state championships.

It all started to happen for Peter in Soccer after St George coach Frank Arok picked him out for a period with Yugoslav

First Division club, Vojvodina.



Peter told us: "For a month I trained every day, and when I returned I had my first game for Saints in the National Soccer League. I hope to go on and become a regular player in the team next season."

It is a remarkable effort indeed for a 17 year-old. He has only to keep on with his clever midfield work and more honours will go his way.

guson. Manager Kevin Calderon.

Goals scored: 269 in 1983.

Goals against: 29 in 1983.

NSW Champion of Champions Final, Sunday 23.10.83 at Sydney Sports Ground, 1pm kick-off.

Chullora Wolves S.C. v Hills Independent S.C.

Wolves were in front 1-0, the goal being scored by Marcial Sousa. With 30 seconds to full time Hills scored to make it 1-1.

Extra time had to be played, and in the second 10 minutes Marcial Sousa, our left winger, scored again to make it 2-1 and Wolves had won the U/16 Champion of Champions.

The team played the curtain raiser to the Croatia v Melita Grand Final replay.

The team is sponsored by Ken Sams Toyota of Chullora.

As the team were in the same change room as Melita, special thanks to this club for the help they gave our boys before and after the game.

U/16 RECORD

Teams played in U/16 State Cup

(1) Epping-Eastwood	4-2
(2) Mascot	5-1
(3) Canterbury	4-0
(4) Epping Y.M.C.A.	1-0
(5) Kissing Point	1-0

Teams played in NSW Champion of Champions

(1) South West Slopes	5-0
(2) Kissing Point	2-1
(3) Apia-Leichhardt	3-1
(4) Marcellan College	2-1
(5) Hills Independent	2-1

- Bankstown United Association of Soccer Clubs Presidents Cup Winners

- Minor Premiers

- Premiers

- U/16 NSW State Cup Winners

- Total Shield Winners

- Spank Sportswear Trophy Winners

- NSW Champion of Champions



CHULLORA WOLVES U/9 CHAMPION

Chullora 9/1 played Castle Hill in the final of Champion of Champions on October 23, winning 1-0.

Both teams played excellent Soccer. It was a credit to both coaches for the effort that had been put into this final.

Castle Hill were by no means easy opponents, and play was constantly running from one goal area to the other.

Chullora played with three injured fullbacks. They were under constant

pressure but managed to last the game out.

Chullora played the entire season with 12 boys over a total of 34 games and always fielded a full team.

They scored 92 goals and conceded seven. During the Champion of Champions 14 goals were scored for nil against — a top effort against the top teams in NSW.

Notable achievements for Chullora during the 1983 season were:

Undefeated Premiers,

Undefeated Minor Premiers, Liverpool Albion K.O. Winners, Revesby-Lions John Rowland Memorial Shield Winners, NSW Champion of Champions Winners.

Another record for Chullora Club was that the U/9's were the youngest team in the club to win their first Champion of Champions.

They are now looking forward to keeping the title again in 10/1 in 1984.



Chullora 9/1 Team R to L Back Row: C. Thomas (coach), M. Glynatsis, K. Kaprot, P. Stratton, D. Simiana, D. Sharman, A. Pittas, J. Hayward, N. Holder (manager). Front Row: C. Thomas (orange girl), C. Sbirziola, K. Smith, G. Thomas, C. Holder, B. Broughton.

NEPEANS' NIPS

NEPEAN Police Boys U/8's were relegated last season, but under a new coach and manager the boys were determined not to stay down.

They listened to every instruction and advice given to them and put it into practice. The end result was worth waiting for — the boys finished runners-up in the 2nd division round-robin, losing 3-2 in the final.

Back Row: left to right, Coach Russell Day, Bradley Day, Nathan McAllister, Craig Walton, Steven Leeming, Trainer Jim Moorwood, Bobby Dorset, Paul Morwood, Manager Reg Walton. Front Row: Corrie Tideman, Mathew Williams, David Roberts, Shane Poppel, Mathew Mess, Craig Bucus and Mattie Collins.



EXPANSION OF TURNER CUP

WHEN the final totals were being determined at a meeting of the Northern NSW Secondary Schools Soccer federation executive recently it was revealed that 244 schools had entered the Bill Turner Cup in 1983.

A total of 3,668 boys had been registered to play in the tournament. When one considers that in 1979 when the competition started a mere 34 schools entered and only 513 players registered. The popularity and growth of the competition speaks for itself.

It is reasonable to assume that perhaps over 300 schools could enter in 1984.

SEMI-FINALIST BIRRONG BOYS



Back Row: Craig Stoves, Brad See, Peter Marks, Shawn Carmody, Andrew Cooper, Peter Oberemok. Middle Row: Andrew Ryabovitch (capt), John Churton, Joleb Kerde, Scott Gilbert, Lindsey Cornish, Darren Cooper, Mr Stephen Gee (coach). Front Row: Phillip Annetts, David Charlesworth, Branko Plausic, Robert



Back Row: Ben Hallam, Adam Brand, Geoff Smith, Craig Perkins, Rodney Bower, Darren McCrohan, Heath Richardson, Mark Oliver, Mr Wayne Hearne (coach). Front Row: Shane Hanley, David Hitchcock, Mark Avery, Andrew Stapleford (capt), Glynn Verity and David Hallam.



Andrew Stapleford, captain of the Cessnock High School team, accepts the Bill Turner Cup from the man whom the competition is named. Cessnock defeated Keira Boys High 2-0 at Macquarie Field, Speers Point on August 24.



FINALIST — KEIRA BOYS HIGH

Back Row: Shane Pasagic, Andrew Lancaster, Rodney Williams, Peter Cavdarovski, Marco Ljubek, John Uner. Middle Row: Mr Steve Goodley (Manager), Barry Yeaman, Damien Jackson, Baskin Bostanci, Wayne Lowe, Francis Vasques. Front Row: Mr Alan Petersen (coach), Troy Fleming, Tim Mitchell, Nick Naumovski, Mark Graham, Todd Deleeuw.

CANTERBURY DIST SOCCER FOOTBALL ASS.

YOUTH LEAGUE TRIALS

**Under 13/14 15/16 at
Timbrell Park — Five Dock
16, 21, 23 November 6.30pm**

**Enquiries Sec Jim Wakeling
560 4488**



(Back row from left) K. Pocock (coach), G. Bonomi, J. Justice, P. Welch, L. Schofield, J. Justice, L. Bonomi (manager), M. Price, P. Brindle, G. Cervilli, A. Pocock, K. Lowe, F. Morales, M. Latimer, D. Reisch and (kneeling) H. Austin.

MARRICKVILLE ARE AMPS



Marrickville under 9 years division 2 players receiving their Premiers trophies from Mrs Piper, wife of the President of Canterbury & District Soccer Football Association, and Mr Keith Anderson, a life member of the CDSFA.



Marrickville Soccer Club which won the Club Championship point score for the first time since it became a Soccer club in 1947, proudly heads the march past at the Canterbury & District Soccer Football Association's Junior Presentation.

'TREDS' SELECTION EXCITES BOORAGUL

THE corridors of Booragul High School were places of great excitement recently when the news broke that one of their favourite sons Peter Tredinnick had been chosen in the Australian squad to defend the Merlion Trophy.

Earlier the school rejoiced when Michael Boogaard, the almost forgotten Newcastle player, had picked up the Grand Final Pennant in the Youth League tournament.

They groaned after seeing another former idol Craig Johnston unceremoniously sent off in a

TV replay of a Liverpool game from England.

But the cream on the cake came when Peter Tredinnick came up again as winner of the Preston Daily Mirror Super Star Award.

Pictures and items on his great achievement are still pinned up in the

notice board along from the portraits of former winning Booragul Tasman Cup teams.

An appropriately worded card of congratulations, signed by the Principal Mr Laurie Gurr, was sent to Peter post haste.

— BILL TURNER

WILSON TAKES OVER

FRANK WILSON is the new secretary of the NSWASF.

With the standing down of Rod Woods, former Gladesville-Hornsby Football Association secretary Wilson was elected to the post unopposed at the annual meeting held on Saturday at Parklea.

After 15 years as secretary at Gladesville and with a lot of experience with state junior teams, he has a lot to offer.

His elevation was semaphored recently when he did not stand for election with his local association.

He was succeeded at Gladesville by North Epping's Stuart Grant.

Soccer is certainly in the Wilson blood. His late father Bill and uncle Les were both secretaries of the amateur federation, then known as the NSW junior Soccer Football Association. That was over 40 years ago.

Ian Holmes was re-elected as president with Barry Hunter as senior vice-president.

Subject to confirmation by their own branches, the junior vice-presidents are H. Denning (Sydney), H. Pasfield (Southern), A. Cantrill (Western) and C. Roach (Riverina).

George Churchward was elected treasurer for his 16th year.

Other appointments were Frank Broughton (Registrar), Michael Bray (assistant secretary-administration), Bill Culinan (assistant secretary-competitions), John Hedges (publicity officer) and Terry Coates (tours and promotions officer).

After his election Frank Wilson said that he was pleased with the team that he will be working with, and believes that they are people who

are keen to get the job done.

Members attending the meeting were shown the latest Parklea developments by its originator Charles Valentine.

The capitation fees for the coaching scheme were fixed at 50 cents for players under seven, \$1.50 for U/8 to U/17 and \$2.00 for U/18 to seniors.

The main budget headings totalled \$94,500, made up of \$20,000 for coaching, \$18,500 for public liability insurance, \$26,000 contribution to Parklea and \$30,000 for branch funding.

The well-conceived personal accident scheme was brought in with an overwhelming majority vote.

The cost will be \$1.00 per player from U/7 to U/17 and \$9.00 for U/18 to All age.



ALBURY — ON THE IMPROVE!

TODAY's picture shows the Albury Wodonga Soccer Association U12 representative team, taken at the match against the Sunshine team from Melbourne.

The result was 2-1 to Sunshine, the North-West Melbourne champions. The AW side had just been formed to get ready for the 1984 season. They are a team which is fortunate

to be sponsored by some of the businesses from the growth area. They are Mr Les O'Brien of Big Chief Trading Post, Mr David Farley of Farley's (Vic), and Barry

Arnold's McDonalds. Les O'Brien was the 1962 Stawell Gift winner. In the picture are Frank Finlay (manager) and Joe Meixner (coach).

MARSDEN HIGH'S CONSOLATION CUP

(MARSDEN won the 1982 Commonwealth Bank Soccer Cup. This year they went well in the competition but after being knocked out, they set to and took out the popular Northern Districts Schools Soccer Cup at Englefield Stadium, West Pennant Hills).

Marsden High School, West Ryde, took out its first Northern Districts School Soccer Cup before a large crowd at Englefield Stadium.

Marsden and Pennant Hills High turned on an entertaining and exciting cup final.

In the first half, Marsden played well in attack and scored a fine goal through Craig Williams.

Pennant Hills fought hard, but its attacking moves constantly fell down.

In the second half a similar pattern emerged.

However, with just a few minutes to full-time Pennant Hills were awarded a penalty kick which Peter Whiteside converted.

With the score locked at 1-1 at full-time, extra time was played.

In extra time Marsden proved too strong for Pennant Hills with two fine goals by Pep Cappello to win 3-1.

Best and fairest award

AUBURN COACH

Cadet coaches will be used in conjunction with seniors in Auburn's club coaching scheme.

Auburn has also organised a free coaching series at the club for all those interested in joining.

Next season the coaches can then return to their own clubs and assist in development there.

The basic skills course will be held on 12 nights over a nine month period.

The courses for boys will be from U/13 to U/16. The U/13 group will also include selected boys in U/10 U/11 and U/12 years grades.

wingers to full advantage and Carlingford took out their first girls' final one goal to nil. Ann Warburton from Carlingford received the best and fairest award for the girls' final.

In the girls' final Carlingford High were drawn against James Ruse High. In the girls' playoff for third and fourth positions, Marsden High defeated Baulkham Hills High.

Donna Ryan scored both goals for Marsden.

PACIFIC CAMP COACHES



FRANK AROK (Aust coach of the year 1982) and MURRAY BARNES (Aust rep. captain) at the August Pacific Camp.

MATTER OF BEHAVIOUR IN NOUMEA

SOME alarming reports have come to hand about the conduct of a Sydney junior team in the South Pacific Cup for U13 teams, played recently in Noumea.

It is alleged that the Combined Churches team did not come up to the standards expected of Australian sporting teams playing overseas.

But it is not known whether the team officially represented the NSW Protestant Churches SFA, or is an offshoot of some of its clubs.

However, general conduct is believed to have been below par. The PCSFA, which has a sound record over many years in this regard, should look closely to see what the position was.

Indeed, although the PCSFA is not an affiliated body through the NSW Amateurs, the Amateurs should also call for a report because Soccer cannot allow the matter to rest.

One club official also said that another Sydney U15 team, playing in the same tournament, was involved in unsavoury incidents.

Both matters should be cleared without delay and appearance in such tournaments made subject to Australian Soccer Federation approval, if this has not always been the case in the past.

The ASF should issue a standard circular, stating what is expected of teams leaving these shores.

DRINK IS JUST TOO STRONG!

WEST GERMAN club Eintracht Brunswick are in debt to the tune of about \$1,200 so they were very interested when offered sponsorship by a company which makes that palatable beverage, schnapps.

But the German authorities refused to let the team wear the name of the sponsor on their jerseys — or change the club name.

The suggested new name is Brunswick Jaegermeister.

When this was unacceptable to the League, Brunswick pointed out that the chemical com-

pany Bayer was part of the club name at two different clubs — Bayer Leverkusen and Bayer Uerdingen.

It seems you can advertise something to cure a headache but not a drink which might bring it on!

The Brunswick club says it is prepared to take this case to the High Court.

BARCELONA BUY INTO MEDIA

BARCELONA, the Spanish giants, perhaps the wealthiest club in the world, are ready to clinch a deal which would give them immense power in the media.

The club, with star performer Maradona, of course, have negotiated a sponsorship with a TV station, TV3 Catalan, which could pay off around \$450,000 a year.

A four-year contract is involved. The television station will screen nine live games, three at home

and six away.

The Barcelona club will also get a share of advertising revenue on the show and will strictly censor all advertisements to ensure they are favourable to the club.

In addition to this TV arrangement, Barcelona have bought a daily sport-

ing newspaper and a widely-circulating magazine.

No doubt all media outlets will say nice things about Maradona and his team mates.

Whoever said you can't buy the media obviously did not know about Barcelona football club!

FOUR NATIONS WANT THE WORLD CUP

WHILE everyone assumes Italy will host the 1990 World Cup Finals, it should be pointed out that four nations are still in the race for the honour.

And they all have sound credentials.

The four waiting for a FIFA decision are Russia, England, Greece and Italy.

COACH UNDER CLOUD

BRAZIL'S coach Carlos Alberto Parreira cannot be in a secure position.

Many Brazilians are angry about the national team being beaten by tiny Uruguay in the Copa De America.

Although Brazil could not field a full-strength side, due to the absence of some stars overseas, it is argued that Parreira should still have had plenty of reserve talent to overcome Uruguay.

The Uruguayans have often upset Brazil in previous years.

Most memorable occasion was in 1950 in Rio when Brazil were hot favourites to win the World Cup.

They flopped, being beaten 2-0 by Uruguay.

TROSSERO DIES

RIVER PLATE (Argentina) player Octavio Victor Trossero died of a heart attack while taking a shower after a match.

As might be expected, this caused a major shock in Buenos Aires and inspired talk that the player might have been affected by drugs.

LUTHER BLISSETT has not been an immediate success with his new Italian club, A.C. Milan, indeed he has had great difficulty fitting in with his new team mates.

BIG MAL STAYS AT HOME

PORTUGUESE second division club Belenses tried to lure flamboyant Malcolm Allison with a fat contract.

Allison previously had great success in Portugal with Sporting Lisbon.

However, Big Mal turned down Belenses and, instead, signed a new two-year contract to remain with Middlesbrough.

OVER SEAS



ZICO MAGIC

THAT brilliant Brazilian, Zico, is proving a magnificent buy — despite the huge fee — for Italian club, Udinese.

And it's not only in vital League matches that he does his stuff.

When Udinese played a friendly game against Lugano in Zurich, they won 6-1. Five of Udinese's goals came from Zico.

EL HELAL, the Saudi Arabian club, is willing to release the former Brazilian "great" Rivelino to Sao Paulo.

The only problem is the size of the transfer fee.

The Arabs are offering the player to Sao Paulo for \$200,000 and, despite his magnificent career record, he could be overpriced.

It all depends on how badly Sao Paulo needs Rivelino. And how much cash there is in the kitty to get him.

SWEDEN'S BJORN DID THE LOT

WHEN Bjorn Nordqvist retired from big-time Soccer recently, it was the end of an era. He will be remembered for many years.

The Swedish international holds the world record for international appearances, having represented Sweden 115 times.

At 41, and with 1,138 matches behind him, Bjorn decided it was time to give the game a rest!

Nordqvist played in three World Cup tournaments and passed Bobby Moore's international appearance record during the World Cup in Argentina in 1978.

A centre-half, he was one of the stars of PSV Eindhoven but ended his



Zico makes a surging run forward.

EUROPEANS GET A GOOD DEAL

ARE the European nations getting preferential treatment from FIFA? That is a question plenty of people believe needs an answer, following the publication of the World Cup set-up for 1986.

There are 119 countries entered in the Cup elimination matches.

Africa provides 29 hopefuls but only two places are allocated in the finals in Mexico.

There are 26 Asian nominations, again for only two places.

Concacaf has 18 nations in the qualifying competition but, with Mexico automatically admitted as the host, only one spot is open.

South America provides 10 entries for four places.

Oceania supplies three entrants, but no place in the finals is guaranteed.

Which brings us to Europe. There are 33 European countries hoping to make the finals. To accommodate them, FIFA has left 13 places vacant, but this is really 14 in view of Italy's qualification as Cup holders.

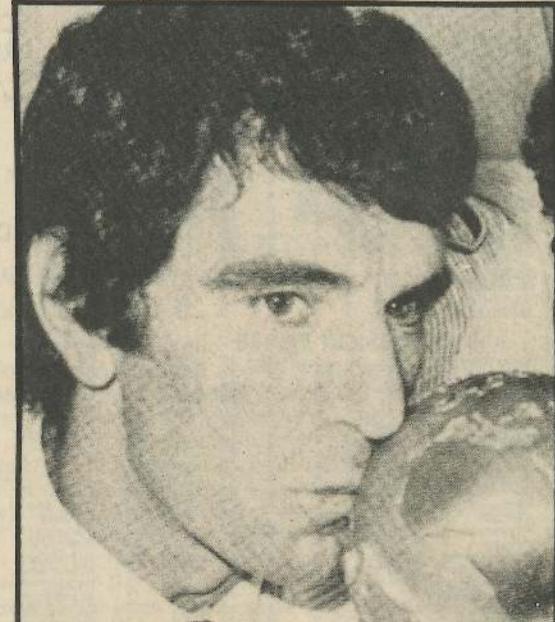
It can be seen, then, that Europe has seven times the representation in the finals of Africa, Asia or Concacaf. Europe also does three and a half times better than the South Americans in Concacaf.

Even if FIFA rejects the charge of preferential

treatment for Europeans, nobody can deny that the British countries have been given a great opportunity of qualifying for Mexico.

It seems strange that Britain could have four qualifiers. Add the Republic of Ireland and this could mean no fewer than five countries from the British Isles might play in Mexico.

Does FIFA want to expand the interests of Soccer throughout the world or merely make sure Europe is treated well?



Dino Zoff: second

